

*File
Andrews folder*

1840 Onyx St.,
Eugene, Oregon,
June 18, 1929.

Card 4/29/29

Mr. C. L. Andrews,
3627 Ashworth Avenue,
Seattle, Washington.

Dear Mr. Andrews:-

Thank you for your letter of June 15.
1734 Villard is six or seven blocks from 1840 Onyx - so you
will almost be a neighbor of mine.

I have just written to see if I can yet get a copy of
the Congressional Record of May 11 for my own use. I shall
try to look it up in the library within a day or two.
Mark Matthews is of the crusader type. He has a vivid
imagination and it carries him sometimes to the point of
viciousness. I think your estimate of him is about right.

Yes, I read "The Eskimo" you sent me - each copy. I
was not acquainted with the reindeer situation except in
a general way. I knew Walter Shields and considered him
a marvelously fine man. Lopp lost a loyal supporter when
Shields died.

I have just learned through my son that Wellcome died
about two years ago, and there has been no promotion of
his charges since. So far as I can tell, Matthews has
done nothing since his big splurge before the committee.
My son seems to think from all the inquiry he has made
in Washington that there will probably be no further action.
He agrees with me that the chief thing for us to do is to get
the Senate Committee to publish the 1928 report, if possible.
I do not believe it best to enter into the controversy
publicly until we have found out what the Senate Committee
will do with the report when it is called to their attention.

It has also been indicated that the Dept. of Indian
Affairs is going ahead with some sort of an Indian Reorganization
Administration through which the Indian communities can
borrow money at 1%, or some such low rate of interest. It
is doubtful if it is interested in furthering Matthews' false-
hoods in any way.

I agree with you that every man attacked by Matthews
was doing his job the best he ~~xxx~~ could. Not a one of them
- even Marsden - conspired against Duncan. I do not think
the Portland men planned to make money. Duncan got them to
dissolve the corporation and then turned around and made those
natives that had stock take their money out, so that he could
have full control. I found strong evidence that he made
100% on his investment in one salmon canning season.

Well, we will have to get together when you come to
Eugene.

Sincerely yours,

W.G. Beattie

1734 villard St.
Eugene, Oregon,
March 19, 1944

Superintendent,
Board of National Missions,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New Yprk City.

Dear Mr. Superintendent;

Your church has missions among the reindeer owing Eskimos of Alaska and have had for over fifty years. Your Board has in the past taken interest in the situation in reference to the herds and I presume still do.

You know that the Government in 1937 took over under a law which was dominated by 9 eliminations and one amendment, so that all management and "CONTROL" was taken from the native after their handling their herds for over 40 year.

You perhaps recall that the management of the reindeer was under the Bureau of Education, and that between the time that the industry was initiated by Dr. Sheldon Jackson of your church, at General Agent of Education for Alaska, in 1891, that it was built up till in 1929 the herds numbered about 70, and the reindeer are reported by the Governor of Alaska in that year as over 599,000. This is probably high, but there were ~~xxxxxxx~~ reasonably 500,000.

In 1943 as you will find from the ESKIMO a paper issued in the interest of the Eskimo owners, 67,795 counted and 162,081 estimated to be on the ranges. ESTIMATES are largely erroneous-generally.

The management of the Secretary and the men he employs ~~xxx~~ apparently is very poor to say the least. He has, ever since the Bur. of Ed. was relieved, employed men with wrong ideas of management of reindeer. The Bureau people who had built the industry were unceremoniously crowded out of the industry by an amendment to the appropriation bill in the 1930's, and men who had not experience but which were dominated by the ideas of a corporation that was attacking the native industry and trying to get controlled over itself, to save itself from bankruptcy.

The result was, the industry has been on a landslide ever since, and is now threatened with utter destruction in the mainland. They adopted the policy of the corporation and united several herds in a UNIT, vastly increasing the size of herd, a adopted no herding being done, so the wolves have devastated the herds, they are mixed so that the owners have no interest in their reindeer--really have none--after forty years of hard work building them up.

I am impressed that the Service has seen its mistake and is beginning to try to restore personal ownership again. I note symptoms of it, and the natives are clamoring

for it in many herds.

But another influence is trying to inject itself into the situation. valhjamar Stefansson, a man of many degrees and an author of wide repute, in New York, has asked me for files of and extra copies of, My ~~ESKIMO~~ a paper issued by me for several years, and saying he wants to send the extra copies of the October Number, to members of Congress, with supporting letters. He is evidently endeavoring to inject himself into the matter.

I very positively object to this. Mr Stefansson is not a man who knows enough about reindeer work to dictate the management of the property of the natives. He speaks in a friendly way of the Eskimos, is reputed to have lived with an Eskimo woman, and to have a son who is with the Canadian herd at the Mackenzie River. I cannot speak from personal knowledge. He and another man secured the Hudson's Bay Co. of Canada to put a herd of reindeer on Baffin Land some years ago. It was not successful. It decreased, and Mr. W.T. Lopp who did the field work of building the industry of Alaska and of the school work after the retirement of Dr. Jackson. Lopp investigated, reported that the range was not fitted. He said the herd would die out if left under the present conditions.

Stefansson and his associate attacked Lopp's report bitterly, in the newspapers. But Lopp's prophecy was correct. The Herd disappeared.

That proves that Mr. Stefansson is not a ~~reindeer~~ a successful reindeer man. He, with Mr. Lomen, who was the president of the Lomen Corporation which attacked the Native Industry for years until bailed out by the Government to save them from bankruptcy, were associated with or in the Expedition to Wrangel Island which resulted in the members all dying in or about 1923, except Ada Blackjack, an ~~xxx~~ Eskimo woman who accompanied the Expedition to prepare skin clothing and do other service.

It is my opinion that Mr Stefansson, is trying to dictate a change in management, possibly to dictate the appointment of a new superintendent in sympathy with the Lomen Interests-to in some manner rehabilitate them.

I am so far away that I can get not news of the situation in Congress, until their action is done, generally. Are you enough interested to watch the action before the Appropriation or other committee relative to this? I consider it a very important thing. I am badly discouraged in the situation. I have been fighting for the native and his industry for 15 years. Was in the service for seven years, and left to escape being crowded out. Anything you can do will be appreciated. I refer you to Rev J.H. Condit of Pasadena, Calif, for information of me.

Very truly yours,

Copies "Eskimo" and C.L. Andrews
C.L. Andrews

*Side
Andrews folder*
Extract from THE ESKIMO of October 29th 1939
Edited and published by C.L.Andrews at
Seattle, Washington

" REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

This is taken up with attacks made by certain parties, principally by Rev. Mark Matthews, of Seattle, and Henry S. Welcome, a wealthy Englishman, on the Secretary and the leading men of the Bureau of Alaska, relative to the control of certain property on Annette Island by the estate of the Rev. William Duncan, the missionary who founded the Metlakatla Mission among the natives of British Columbia, and afterward transferred the mission and Indians to Alaska, to Anette Island

Briefly the situation is;

In the Hudson's Bay Company domain in British Columbia, Mr. Duncan went among the Indians of British Columbia at the Company's post, became acquainted with the natives, converted them to his belief, founded a settlement at which he taught, methods of trade, kept a store, started a school and founded a prosperous community.

Later he founded interfered with the authorities in his teachings, felt abused and asked the U.S. to give his Indians a grant of Annette Island as a home. The United States agreed in this on certain terms and these Metlakatla Indians were granted lands and privileges thereon more favorable than have been given to any of the Indians of the United States Territory, including rights to the fisheries on the shores of said island.

Dr. Duncan's projects prospered, the fishing rights were valuable. He established a store and a cannery. For many years he labored faithfully in the interests of the natives.

Later he seems to have become obsessed by the idea of accumulating a large fortune by using the fishing and trading rights and the labor of the Indians under his charge.

His school is said not to have taught above the fourth grade, and he became so old that he was not capable of attending to all the duties consequent on the growth of the industries. He incorporated a company, with a capital of \$25,000. A large part of the stock was taken by Dr. Duncan himself, a considerable part was taken by Portland, Oregon, capitalists, and about \$3,000 was taken by the Indians. It appears from testimony given in 1926 or about then, that Dr. Duncan persuaded and influenced the Indians to transfer their stock to him.

The company claimed within a few years, that their investment was worth \$56,000 or thereabout, and it seems to have paid large dividends.

The natives became displeased with the domination of Dr. Duncan. They petitioned the Bureau of Education of the United States to place a school on the island which would give them better advantages for education and other benefits. This was bitterly opposed by Dr. Duncan, but it was finally accomplished by the government. In 1926 a committee appointed by a

the Secretary of the Interior made an investigation and a report in which the Bureau of Education and Secretary of the Interior were justified in their action. Dr. Duncan died., August 30, 1918, leaving a fortune not exactly known as to the value, but has been estimated to have been about or over \$100,000 and three trustees were named to administer same.

Now the petitioners presented that the officers of the Bureau of Education and the Secretary of the Interior, conspired and unlawfully seized, in machinery, buildings etc., that they violated the laws, and other charges were made.

The question arose, how did Dr. Duncan accumulate such a great estate in this work as missionary, supposed to be in the interest of the natives, and using their resources granted them by the U.S. Government? How did property and fishing rights on the island come to belong to any other than the Indians to whom the grant of land and its privileges were made?

The whole matter seems to be an attempt to get control of the property and rights of the Metlakatla Indians, by the Trustees of the Estate of William Duncan, Deceased.

last
The Committee simply collected and published the testimony. The statement of the alleged conspirators is not presented. The Report is in "Hearings before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Indian Affairs, United States Senate, 74th Cong. 2nd Sess. Washington, D.C. "

Law on MISSION CLAIMS

Chapter III, Compiled Laws of Alaska, Sec. 03

"Sec. 93, Land not exceeding six hundred and forty acres at any station now occupied as missionary stations among the Indian tribes in said section, with the improvements thereon erected by or for such societies, shall be continued in the occupancy of the several religious societies to which said missionary stations respectively belong until action by Congress."

It would appear that this was for mission purposes but not that any man could make use of the lands granted to natives to conduct a business for and belonging to an individual such as Dr. Duncan seems to have been.

May 10, 1944

Mr. C. L. Andrews
1734 Villard Street
Eugene, Oregon

My dear Mr. Andrews:

Thank you for your letter of late March in regard to the situation among the Eskimos in connection with the reindeer herds. I am very much interested in this matter and appreciate the information that you have sent me. This is a new field for me and I shall have to give it considerable study before being able to do anything about it.

I have just returned from a visit to Alaska but was not able to get to the Arctic Coast on this visit. I hope to make this possible a year from this coming summer. Meanwhile, some study ought to be given to this problem and I am willing to help in any way possible.

It was my privilege to have a visit with The Benson family in Metlakatla when we talked about the problem of having two churches in this village. The Presbyterians are determined to continue and the trustees of the Duncan Estate have asked that we withdraw. Mrs. Benson told me that you were in charge of Indian affairs in the early days when the controversy developed and suggested that you could give me much of the background of the problem. It is my hope to come to Eugene when in that territory and have a visit with you. I have no trip in your direction planned in the immediate future but certainly feel that before the next winter I would like to have the privilege of a long talk with you.

We are wondering if it might be possible that you might be East in the near future. If you would be I would like to make arrangements for a visit with you. Pending a visit with you I am wondering if it is possible for you to write me a story of the split in Metlakatla. You might include, as you know it, the split over the school and the

Page #2
Mr. C. L. Andrews

May 10, 1944

procedure which was followed in the organization of the Presbyterian Church. The officers of the Presbyterian Church feel that you could give an unbiased statement on this early situation.

The people of Alaska have greatly appreciated the contribution of your services for the benefit of the territory and the people in the territory. You made a deep impression for good upon their lives.

Sincerely yours,

The Rev. J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK

VIA AIRMAIL

1734 Villard St.
Wugene, Oregon,
May 20th 1944

MAY 29 1944

Rev. J. Mark Jackman,
Secretary, Unit of Work in Alaska
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City,

Dear Mr. Jackman;

I am pleased to acknowledge your letter of 10th inst, somewhat delayed in answer, waiting till I could consider an answer which covers a wide field.

Have you ever examined the correspondence between myself and others, on the matter of the reindeer controversy-with Rev. A.J. Montgomery, Director of Town and Country Dep..?

Or the correspondence with Rev. Somerindyke, on same subject? These extended through several years following 1930.

In those files you will get a grounding in the situation.

In the office of Women and Missions, I believe that you will find a file of the ESKIMO, a paper issued by me for nearly nine years, on the matter. I shall enclose one or two copies, of last issue. That will about illustrate the present situation.

Then write to some of your people in the fields of your missions in the North, St. Lawrence Id, Mr. Frank Daugherty, at Gamble, who knows something of the beginning or middle, of the controversy, he is isolated at present-on the island. Write to your representative at Barrow to ask his people what they think of it. Alfred Hopson and Robert Brower now have their herd under good control I am advised, but inquire of the situation on the Colville, and on or at Barter Island, old Takpuk's herd and others. Ask at Wainwright herd, how they like the situation and about the changes since 1929. Inquire of the representative and of the reindeer men at Wales.

When you get an outside view of it, I will go over the situation from my side at any convenient time, and I'll give you the inside of the whole matter as briefly as possible, and if you can come here I'll go over the whole matter with supporting documents, for I have preserved a file of the history in detail of the reindeer work from start to the present. I have matter to be found nowhere else. I have been interested in it from the first, and surveyed the northwest in 1917 in company with Walter Shields, the Supt. I was in the service 1923 to 1929. I have been fighting the battle since 1926 partially and from 1929, directly and actively, and have kept the records.

I am minded to write an article reviewing the situation, for the Christian Herald. What do you say? Rev. Montgomery advised it in 1930 but I have not done it.

It is not financially possible for me to go East now. I have made four or five visits there, but I left the reindeer service in 1929, and have been keeping off the old age pension since that by free lance writing, but last year is the first year I ^{will not} get the income tax exemption of \$500. So you see the exchequer will not permit of much more than just living.

This matter influences the prosperity of your fields of action. The man who brought the industry to Alaska was your Sheldon Jackson, General Agent of Education for Alaska. The first move in breaking the industry was the dismissal of Jackson. He made a mistake or two. Its very success was used against him. He blundered in allowing Kjellman, his superintendent, a Norwegian, to persuade him into importing 113 Laps, Norwegians, and Finns, into Alaska with the reindeer brought to America for the Relief on the Klondike in 1898. It was a Norwegian scheme, to break into the reindeer work, in my opinion. I can show you the detailed working of it, but too long by mail-I can show original documents that would break me to copy. He also made loans to missions to distribute to adherents of their missions, the missions accumulated herds, instead of distributing them and sold them in violation of the Rules and Regulations of the Dept. The Laps got loans of reindeer under cover of projecting a colony that would be model reindeer institution. They sold to a Corporation that attacked in spear heads at these bases. It is a long and crooked story.

Metlakatla, I was not at the mission except visits in 1892, 1915 and one other, but I have been attentively witnessing the situation. I have two reports of investigations by the Government, one in 1926 and one in 1936. The first is only in mimeograph or typewriting. I have a copy at Seattle in my locker at the U. S. The 1936 hearing is in Bur. of Ind Aff Com. of the Senate, made in 1936 and consists of attacks on Jackson, Lopp and others, No witnesses on part of the Presbyterial of the School people taken.

Pub. in
1939

The situation is briefly outlined in THE ESKIMO by me. short sketch Oct. 1939. cannot find I have a copy but look in file of the W. & M. If not, I'll write you later. The 1936 hearing is in Part 35 of the Sen. Com. report of 1939--I looked for copy but did not find one-can be had of Dept. The 1926 copy is what you need-they are very scarce but the N.W. Pub. Lib. may have one. I can write you an outline if you wish. Mr. Beattie, of the Univ. here was at Metlakatla at time of the big fuss in 1926 and has much data-If you come will take you to see him. He is Prof on Extension of the U.. I shall look over my material and give you a brief sketch of it.

I thank you that you feel that my work has been of some help to the Alaska people-

I have been afraid of an effort by Vilhjalmar Stefansson, to get Carl Lomen into the reindeer work for the U.S. He wrote me for my ESKIMO copies Oct No, to use with supporting letters for Congress. It made me suspicious. They tried a publicity campaign in the papers, and I answered some of them and think it has subsided-hope so. I shall close for this time. Thanks for your interest.

Sincerely yours,

C. J. Andrews

1734 Villard St.
Eugene, Oregon
May 23, 1944

MAY 29 1944

Rev. J. Earl Jackman,
Secretary, Pres. Bd of Mis.
New York City.

Dear Mr. Jackman;

I wrote you a letter on the 20th. I did not wish to give you too much material at one sitting. This may be too soon to offer more, but I'll venture it. You may lay it by till you have assimilated the material given you.

Have you access in your office to the reports of the Schools for Alaska, from 1880 to 1918? In that year they ceased to publish them-whether at the connivance of the Lomens and their fellow conspirators or not, I am unable to say.

The reports on the reindeer run from 1890 to 1906, The 1906 was the report of Churchill who was sent as special agent. There were three or four schools stopped for the year to make the required amount to "investigate" Rev. Jackson and the Reindeer and school work This was one of the opening guns of the getting Dr. Jackson out, and it succeeded. It was doubtless concocted specially for that purpose, but his report was not unfriendly to Dr. Jackson, entirely. Jackson replied but his reply was not published until 1908. Dr Jackson left the work in 1907 I think.

While Dr. Jackson was there the influence he had was enough to withstand the attacks in Washington. But after his dismissal the opposition to the reindeer by those who wanted it in their hands progressed rapidly. In the last pages of Churchill's report you will find Gov. Hoggatt appeared to inquire into it. This shows the interest.

I think the Lomens began to pull wires in 1901. In 1898, Wm. J. Kjellman was appointed supt. of reindeer, a Norwegian who had come from the North of Norway, And he knew something of reindeer he was appointed about 1894 or 5. The reports will show. In 1898, the Klondike was reported short of food. Congress proposed an appropriation of \$20,000 for relief.

Dr. Jackson proposed to send to Norway for sled deer, to bring the, to S.E. Alaska, and drive them over the Dalton Trail to Dawson. Kjellman had made one or two trips to Norway in the work, and was selected to go to get the Laps and reindeer. He proposed to Dr. Jackson, to get a colony of Laps to come with this expedition and to allow them a loan of reindeer and they would form a colony, and a model reindeer management.

Kjellman proceeded to enlist 113 persons, Dr. Jackson probably fell into Kjellman's plan unwittingly, and he had free hand and brought 79 Laps, 25 Norwegians and 10 Finns. Among the Lapps were 16 women and 19 children. The Norwegians played in- pretended to be reindeer men in order to get to the mines. One of them Japhet Lindberg, left the service the day after he reached S. Michael or Ualakleet, and went mining, got rich,

and played into the reindeer game afterward.

The need in the Klondike proved not severe, the reindeer reached Haines Mission in S.E. Alaska, were kept there till the reindeer moss brought was eaten, then they began to die. Most perished before they got them up the trail to moss pasture some 20 or more miles, through the snows. About or over 100 were saved and sent down the river, to Tanana on the Yukon, and being sled deer were traded out there for food and pack animals etc. About 7 moose, Laps and Finns went with the little herd, the rest were shipped on a transport to Unalakleet to the reindeer station there and turned over to the Bureau of Education, which had not more use for them than for the 5th wheel on a wagon.

Now, I am quite sure, the first of the Lomen conspiracy started. Kjellman persuaded Dr. Jackson to give the Laps reindeer loan enough to start a herd. He got 100 head each for about 8 Laps, and these Laps started herds for themselves. This was in 1901 the first were allowed loans. They got with some loan made a little later, nearly as many deer as the U.S. imported from Siberia. The sled deer brought with the Laps were geldings, and of course made no part of the reindeer industry.

It is my belief, that G. J. Lomen and his son Carl, planned on these Laps getting deer, building up a big herd, and then selling to them. There may have been an agreement? No one knows. Most of the Laps returned to Norway inside two years. Some are there yet, mostly of the first ones who got loans sold their herds to the Lomen Company organized in 1914 to get in control of the reindeer industry, in a similar way to the famous scheme of Judge Noyes and his associate, the Receiver of the Court, in 1901 in jumping mining claims, the Judge appointing Mackenzie as a receiver, at a bond of about \$5000 and turning the claim and machinery over to them on claims producing perhaps 10,000 or more a day. This is told in a fiction book, called the "SPOILERS" by Rex Beach. If you want an interesting story for an evening borrow it at the library, and read.

Now I have outlived another line, I shall let you digest this material and I will give you more if you are interested. It is not a little affair, I have been fighting for over 15 years, keeping myself in the background, but keeping the fight alive. And it goes clear up to Senators and Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture, and Bureaucrats like Albert K. Burlew, and E. W. Nelson. It involves Senator Kendrick of Wyoming, Sen. Knute Nelson of Minnesota, Senator Dr. C. of New York, and to some extent Mr. Taylor chm. of the Appropriations Com of the Int Dep, and the whole field force of the Biological Survey of which Mr. Nelson was the chief.

I had hoped that the matter was ended by the purchase of the non-native owned reindeer in 1940, but the men in the service do not know how to handle the reindeer or the Eskimos, and the whole is going to pieces as fast as deer can die with wolves after them.

Sincerely yours

C. L. Andrews

More later if you are interested.
This is a serial.

On the Metlakatka matter, I enclose you a typed copy of my observations in the Eskimo. I have a note book from the hearing of 1926 if you cannot get a copy

It may interest you, I'll mail it for you to consult if you wish the loan

C.L.A.

December 21, 1944

Dr. C. L. Andrews
1734 Villard Street
Eugene, Oregon

My dear Dr. Andrews:

Sometime ago we had correspondence in regard to the information which you have concerning situations in Alaska which would be valuable and we talked of the possibility of my having a visit with you.

I am planning a trip through Washington and Oregon in January and find that my schedule will allow me to have a visit with you in Eugene about the 18th of January. According to other conferences along the way this might be a day earlier or a day later but it is now scheduled for the 18th. I hope it may be possible to find you at home at that time and have a few hours with you about Alaska.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:FK

JAN 4 1945

1734 Villard St
Eugene, Oregon
December 27, 1944

Mr. J. Earl Jackman,
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City 10

Dear Mr. Jackman;

I wish to acknowledge your letter of 21st, and pleased to have it. Have been waiting for you to look over the matter I gave you to consider. Shall be much pleased to meet you here and go over the ground with you, where I have my files and records to show you.

I note you fix the 18th probably. I have a speaking engagement for the latter part of next month, date and time not fixed, with the woman's branch of the Red Cross--on Alaska. I hope it will not interfere.

Otherwise I have nothing that will in any way interfere, and I will meet you at most convenient place and time. I hope it will be so you can come to my address where I have rooms and my material. I will meet you at the depot Bus or Railway, as you fix, and bring you out with me, or you can phone me at phone of my sister, Mrs W.T. Wiles, 1886-W *Alaska*

I consider it a very important thing to your church, which has missions at three or four places in the Eskimo-Reindeer area.

I have watched the work from its inception, and have spent some 14 years directly trying to get results, publish a small paper, , unique in North America, in its interest, at my own expense, and I need help of an organization with strength and interest. I enclose you a couple of copies.

Thanking you for your attention

Sincerely yours
C.L. Andrews
C.L. Andrews

February 6, 1945

Dr. C. L. Andrews
1734 Villard Street
Eugene, Oregon

My dear Dr. Andrews:

I have just returned to the office and hasten to forward to you the material which you so kindly loaned me concerning the Eskimos and the copy of the letter from Edward Marsden. This latter material was something which we had never seen before and has proved very helpful in compiling the picture of the situation at Metlakatla. We have made copies of it and are indebted to you for being the source of this information.

It was a real pleasure to have this visit with you and I would be delighted some day to have another one. There was not enough time to catch even a glimpse of your broad knowledge of Alaska and its people.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

Enc. "Crime Against Father Duncan"-1-27-1921
" Report of L.E. Rynning-12-20-1932
" Letter of Alaska Livestock and Packing Co.-4-25-1933

Dear Dr. Jackman;

Have you enough information
that you can offer any suggestions?
Can I send more information?
Did you see Dr. Condit?
Did he discuss the Reindeer situation
with you?

I send you your July and Oct Eskimo
also Jan'y 1945 Issue.

Best wishes,

Sincerely,

C.L.A.

Have opened up a little with Sen.
Wayne Morse, and with Bartlett
of Alaska, reference Eskimo

FEB 21 1945

March 2, 1945

Dr. C. L. Andrews
1734 Villard Street
Eugene, Oregon

My dear Dr. Andrews:

Thank you for sending me the copies of The Eskimo for January. This is additional information which I shall try to absorb before going to the Arctic Coast in May. You are very gracious in asking me for suggestions when I know so little and you know so much. I am not prepared either with knowledge or foresight to offer suggestions to such an authority.

I was not able to see Dr. Condit in Pasadena and regret it very much. Sometime I hope to have a visit with him.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
JEJ:FK Unit of Work in Alaska

MAY 1 1945

1734 Villard St. Eugene.

April 25, 1945

J.
Mr. Earl Jackman, ?Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska
156 Fifth Avenue
New York City,

Dear Mr. Jackman;

I have yours of March 2, and have waited for the April number of the ESKIMO to be finished and delivered, but as it has not arrived, shall anticipate it today and take time by the "Fetlock"? and get the letter out.

First, I understand that you intend to go to the Arctic coast in May. I presume that you will go by plane, and you cannot reach that part by sea at that time. Will you go by plane directly from Seattle? Will you make a stop in Oregon and Washington? Will it be possible for you to call in Eugene again? There are quite a number of things I should like to take up with you as you go. Will you be at Juneau so that you will contact Mr. Foster, of the Office of Indian Affairs? I have had some correspondence with him. I have tried to impress on him that the only way he can rebuild the Reindeer Service is by adopting the practice of the old Bureau of Education, which was based on the Lapland law and practice.

The Department at Washington is set against anything that approves the old system as it places it in the wrong. It is like when Roy Nash, a ~~fine~~ special agent of the Int Dept. was sent to Alaska, and he did a good job of it, and made a clear, comprehensive report and sent a copy of the Swedish Law to the Department, where he requested it be translated, which was done, when his report was made it was buried, - pigeonholed. It was requested by Dr. Sumerindike that it be published, he was side-tracked by political methods. It was requested by Mr. Nash himself, and received "It will not be published, it would put us in the wrong to do it." Or words to that effect. He wrote me so.

That shows a determination not to do anything or take any advice that pertains to re-establishing the only system that has been successful and goodness knows the present one is a FROST. You have the last Eskimo with the poverty stricken report of 1943. "128,700 ESKIMOS", where the Governor publishes 599,825 in 1929, when he took charge of the industry.

So it is plain the thing is not on the square. Would you feel like asking for a copy of the Roy Nash, Special Agent's report? It was made in 1933 I believe. That would be ground floor information. Then ask the Land Office if they will give you a copy of the report of their agent Carlisle on the Lomen ranges, also about 1933. There are square men, and their reports are sound.

Your man at Barrow has never attempted to work with me. I do not know why. I would suppose that he would. Miss Bannan, for many years in the work of your Church in Alaska, is pretty well informed on the reindeer. Talk with Alfred Hopson, who is the best mechanic and builder in Barrow, white men take the contracts, make the money, and Alfred does the work, He sacrificed himself and went out to the reindeer work, put the herd in shape, and understands the situation in the field thoroughly. Get him

Handwritten note in right margin:
The Eskimo report was sent to me by Mr. Nash.

to go over it with you. Maybe he would get you taken out to the reindeer camp and you will get some first-hand ideas. That is the best way to do-seeing is believing.

If you stop at Wainwright long enough, talk with Robert James, an Eskimo, trader there, but he has been in the reindeer camps and served, he has a grasp of the situation. Wainwright has lost $2\frac{1}{3}$ of its reindeer. They are trying to get out of the company business and establish, re-establish, ownership, of individuals.

Individual ownership makes personal interest in the herd, and the man who is of any account, value, is interested in his own herd. If he has a fine lot of deer he will be proud of them. The largest owner is best at the herd personally watching it, no matter if he is old, he can see and know what is going on and if the herd is cared for.

I have a letter saying that at some herds men with dog teams chase the deer for fun-run them down till they fall with bursting a blood vessel-and fall. Then the men and dogs finish it, and put as many as they can on the sled, and take them to town, for food and dog food. They are trying to make the reindeer support 9 or 11 dog teams-It is like the auto to the white man- it is his auto.

The work is now handled as was outlined by the Lomen Reindeer Corporation and as all of them tried to manage reindeer--that means by no herding at all-run loose, no protection at all. That drives the reindeer wild, and soon they are little better than the caribou.

Herding day and night is the only way while there is a wolf in the country. The herder always guarding the herd. In that way the herd is domesticated--it trusts the herder to take care from danger-they get as tame as cattle or sheep.

As you go down the coast talk to Abraham Lincoln at Kotzebue if you put in there. He is an Eskimo reindeer man and knows. I talked about him in my last Eskimo-trying to stir him up. See what I said.

At Shishmaref, see Geo. R. Goshaw, he is erratic, tempestuous, is a fox farmer, see his foxes if you can-he sees the miserable condition the herds are in. See Allokeok, one of the oldest apprentices under Mr. Lopp-get his view. Have you a nurse or missionary at Wales, if not try to see Louis Lungwenuk. He is off with me-was my best informant and worker for years, then quit- I think the Service threatened him or bought him off by making him the storekeeper there. I have not had a letter for years, and his herd is practically gone, has as many as 10,000 in 1929.

If possible I shall try to see you. Best wishes to you.

Sincerely,

E. J. Andrews
E. J. Andrews

I'll try to send a copy of April Eskimo with this. Hope it comes today,

Dr. Lomen - I am sure you will find this letter of interest. The Eskimo is a very interesting book.

May 17, 1945

Dr. C. L. Andrews
1734 Villard Street
Eugene, Oregon

My dear Dr. Andrews:

It was kind of you to write me such a long letter in April and send me a copy of the Eskimo. I wish it had been possible for me to stop off and visit with you on the way up but I was in Alaska during the time you wrote the letter.

I got as far as Nome but was not able to get on to St. Lawrence Island or into the Kotzebue region because of weather conditions. It was possible to get to Barrow for a few days but did not do very much about the reindeer situation. I had reindeer roast several times in Barrow and found it very choice eating.

Brief reports on the reindeer situation were encouraging. There seems to be a general feeling up there that the Lomen Corporation is now out of the business and the herds are now being turned back to individual owners and herders. Those who talked with me about it thought that this was the proper solution of the problem and conditions would be better in the near future.

Kindest personal regards!

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEB:FK

MAY 31 1945

1734 Villard St.
Eugene, Oregon
May 24th 1945

Dr. J/Earle Jackman;
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York City 10

Dear Mr. Jackman:

I have yours of 17th inst. Sorry not to have had the pleasure of your visit. But you have gone and you have seen, a glimpse of what I lived for seven years, and I wonder if you saw what I saw. You could not see all. Did you raise a reindeer on the hills? Did you get close enough to see them feed and how? Did you realize what it means for them to be on that wintry waste with hungry wolves hanging round, and no herder with his rifle to keep them off?

They are wanting to get more bounty to kill them off. If big enough, hunters will follow them till it does not pay, then quit. The owner will watch that herd for it is his living.

The sea is an attractive, dangerous life, but some love it. When whaling comes in a ring it is almost impossible to keep them at the herd. But when the herder and his dog are gone, the wolf comes, and he is insatiable/

Did I write you that Mr. Foster wrote me to the effect that it was the policy to use the appropriation on the Gov't herds, and let the other go, till wages came down till men could be hired and then the industry would be revivult.

That will lose forty years of effort. It has nearly been lost now. That will finish it.

Did you talk with Mr. Aleihauer? I feel he is a man who does not see what is going much farther than then the walls of his study and church. I met him in the cabin of the Captain as the ship "Spencer" was preparing to go North in 1939. I knew him but I do not think he knew me.

The Secretary's office has been divided for nearly 30 years, one hand getting an appropriation, bigger and bigger, a plum for politics--trying to make the Corporation prosper at the expense of the native owners. The Governor got the plum and it was sour. John Troy wrote me in response to some things I wrote him--"I'm not going to write a history of the reindeer."

Senator Kendrick, chairman of the Reindeer Com of 1831, in the Int Dept, got the appointment of first "expert" to get ready to be supervisor. He got it as a perquisite for managing the Com. for the Lomens. Can you get the hearings? I think they are in unbound folios in your office, should be. It will pay you to run over them and get what you can see what Lomen said, what Baldwins said what Chairman Kendrick said. Then you can see -since you have the picture of the tundras, and the people.

Sincerely yours,
C. L. Andrews.

C. L. Andrews

JUL 16 1945

1734 Villard St.
Eugene Oregon
July 10 1945

Mr J. Earl Jackman;
Secretary, Alaska Unit,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, 10

Dear Mr. Jackman;

Have you crystalized your views on the situation in the Reindeer Industry in Alaska?

Sorry you did not see Dr. Condit, when you were on the coast. He is well posted in the case.

Your church is about the most interested of any of the religious denominations, except the Catholics-and they took no interest at the first, had a loan, and a Lap paid to instruct-failed utterly in handling, and the Bur. of Ed. took the herd back and placed in on the lower river. It was at Holy Cross. Then they managed to get hold of another and had it at Akoularuk at the mouth of the Yukon on the Delta. They acquired another herd by some means, I never knew exactly how, and I think sold it back to the Government at \$3, per head. under the name of St. Mary's Mission..

I think that the Lomens have been trying to put over something this summer and I do not know what. Carl Lomen and his wife are said to be spending the summer in Alaska It was in the Alaska Weekly.

I told you of opposing L/J. Palmer going into the reindeer work, and that I protested to Governor Gruening in two letters, and did not get the courtesy of an acknowledgment. I note in the Alaska Weekly that Palmer. - Range examiner for the Reindeer Division, died in Nome suddenly in June.

Do you believe in special intervention of Providence?
I sometimes think such things do happen.

I think Lomen is interested in getting the kill of some three to seven thousand reindeer from Nunivak which I hear is or are to be killed this season, to relieve overstocking, which is imminent on Nunivak. I believe it is to be sold to him at his offer, without competition.

If you remember the sale of 5200 reindeer in Alaska in 1931 on commission by some three or four herds in Alaska and on which the charges exceeded the sales by nearly double, it will be an index to their character in handling property. The meat will be sold low to him, or the Anglo-Saxon Meat Co., I have the name right I think, do not wish to take time to hunt it up. The meat is killed by the natives and paid for by taking deer. I do not know how this bunch from Nunivak will be held.

Lomen stated, to newspaper men, over the U.S. that he would get the meat if they sold their deer to the Gov't, "without the trouble of running over the tundra to get it." That is the key to the matter. Have you any opinions to offer sincerely
C. L. Andrews

Eugene, Oregon
1734 Villard St.
November 2, 1945

NOV 13 1945

Mr. J. Earl Jackman,
Secretary, Unit of Work in Alaska
Presbyterian Church Board of Missions
150, Fifth Avenue, New York 10

Dear Jackman;

Your last letter is of March 2, 1945. I wrote you on July 10, 1945, asking if you had crystalized your views on the reindeer situation in Alaska, but have so far no answer.

There is one favorable action in the case. The Supervisor, Mr. J. Sidney Rood, has been relieved, No successor has been appointed. It is my belief that Mr. L. J. Palmer, of the Biological Survey, one of the most directly active of the men acting in the interests of the Corporation in taking native owned reindeer in opposition to the rights and wishes of the native owners, and in violation of the Regulations of the Interior Department ~~in~~ which placed the Bureau of Education Superintendent in charge of the reindeer, was intended to succeed, but who died last Spring.

It is quite sure that there is not a man left who is really fit for the position, except one of the old Service of the Bureau of Education. The Administration would not under any conditions allow this, in my opinion, it would be too bitter a pill to swallow to acknowledge they had been in fault.

Mr. Don C. Foster, is now the General Superintendent, and he writes me

"The Bureau of the Budget is getting pretty tight with funds, and in our last budget they have practically restricted to the use of funds on government owned reindeer herds. We intend to apply most of our energy to preserving these herds so when the time comes that the period of high wages is over and the Eskimo gets back down to earth again, we will be in a condition to have several thousand reindeer available for seed so that he may start into the industry again."

There are men owning reindeer now, who earned their start by apprentice work and by handling their own herds. The Gov. by law has taken all "CONTROL", from them, and is losing their deer by thousands every year. The herds are so mixed and have been ever since the Lomans took herds from them and mixed them that they have not had the right or the possibility to do anything with their property.

Will it be better to let these men look at the Government lose their property, and accumulate herds in and "AUTHORITY" than to separate and deliver the remaining deer to them or to promise in some indefinite time to restore--to whom--and how many reindeer? Will the manner it is and has been handled give confidence to the natives who have seen the past record? Their confidence in Government is badly shattered.

Have you anything to offer? From 1913 to 1918 the cost of handling was \$5000 a year, now it is \$75,000 to \$95,000 a year. Then the increase was 22% a year, net every year, now the loss from 1929, when the Governor took charge, has been from \$99,825 to an estimated 65,000. Very truly yours,

Handwritten signature: O. J. Anderson

December 3, 1945

Mr. C. L. Andrews
1734 Villard Street
Eugene, Oregon

My dear Mr. Andrews:

You have been very kind to send me two letters recently with a copy of the latest issue of The Eskimo to keep me informed about developments in that field. I appreciate the fact that you are interested to draw me into the circle of those who are concerned about the welfare of the Eskimos and their food supply in the reindeer herds.

I had a meeting recently with Mr. E. L. Bartlett the new delegate from Alaska to Congress. He is genuinely interested in the welfare of the Eskimos and I think can be counted upon to do whatever possible for their best interests.

Last month's issue of Alaska Sportsman carried an editorial on its main page concerning the situation in regard to the reindeer industry. It seems from many sources that interest is being aroused in the proposal to return the reindeer herds to the Eskimos. We trust that everything will develop for their best interests.

Under the press of so many duties I am not able to give much time to the development of this but certainly am vitally interested in any thing which concerns the welfare of the Eskimos. Wherever I can pick up information or say a word along the way which will promote their welfare will be cheerfully done.

Kindest personal regards and highest commendation to you for your continued interest in the people of Alaska!

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

JEJ:PK

Dictated but not
signed by Dr. Jackman

DEC 20 1945

1734 Villard St.
Eugene, Oregon
December 11, 1945

Dr. J. Earl Jackson,
Secretary, Natl. Mis.
150 Fifth Avenue.
New York, 10

Dear Dr. Jackson;

I have yours of 3rd inst., and thank you for it.

I have been for twenty years wondering when the man who occupies the office of Secretary of the Interior will wake up to the idea that justice should be rendered to the Eskimos in their endeavor to learn the white man's peculiar ways, and his pretension to right government.

It is 320 years since we commenced to abuse and deal the Indians unjustly with him. He has been a brave fighter, he has taught us the art of modern warfare, open order fighting, scouting, camouflaged etc.. We have professed peace and justice and right, to him, and turned around and violated every tenet of that creed.

I see one ray of light. The superintendent or General Supervisor, J. Sidney Rood, has been dismissed from the service. He has been in the service since 1929, and about five to 8 years as supervisor. He has received \$75,000 to \$95,000 for losing the reindeer that had been built up by W. T. Lopp and others at from \$5000 to \$25000, a year. and he has nothing to show for it. I paid my respects to him in my October Eskimo.

I have only two white men in Alaska who are enough interested in the matter to give me information. The natives have mostly gone back to sea hunting and fishing and look on the reindeer as another example of the white man's promises. They used to have faith in government, but it is sadly rotted.

Thank you for the interest you have taken. I hear that Mr. Ickes is slated to close his service, and I hope he does. Maybe the next Secretary may have some sense of responsibility for the native in that region trying to eke out an existence.

I am considering stopping publication of the Eskimo. It costs me about \$25 a quarter, and it is a difficult problem for me to make a living at my age of 83.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

C. L. Andrews
C. L. Andrews

MAY 20 1946

1734 Villard St.
Eugene, Oregon
May 12, 1946

Rev. J. Earl Jackson;
156 Fifth Ave,
New York

Dear Dr. Jackson;

// I have not heard what you think of the reindeer situation. Your people would be interested it would seem. The founder, Dr. Sheldon Jackson, was one of your church leaders. You have at least four missions directly at herds of reindeer, and the members of the church are directly concerned in the reindeer work. Have you reports from these missions as to the situation with them of their reindeer?

I thought Mr. Foster was interested and would do something toward clearing up the mixture of the herds and the ~~be~~ finding out how many deer each herd owned and seeing if they were interested in taking care of the reindeer at their homes.

It is a regular stock business. The herds must be kept under domestication. The Government cannot do it. It must be done by men who own the reindeer and have a personal financial interest.

There must be boats provided by Government to take the school supplies North and bring back the reindeer meat to Seattle or to S.E. Alaska Ports and sell at auction or private sale, so the natives can dispose of their surplus animals. No farmer in the states tries to live off his stock or farm with no market. The Eskimos have as nearly done this as has any community of the U.S. Not only that but one herd sent 176 carcasses to relief of Unemployed when the cost of support of people in the States was about a million a year. What American settlement has done as much.

I have been fighting this for 16 years, on my own funds.. For over 11 years I have published "THE ESKIMO" a copy of which I enclose.

// Did you confer with Mr. Foster, Capt in Charge of the Reindeer and Schools.?

Have you kept a file of THE ESKIMO and know the situation I am almost ready to quit. I am 84 in October I have made two different trips as far as Pt Barrow besides six years, nearly 7, in the service. I'm tired and old.

Sincerely yours,

C. L. Andrews
C. L. Andrews

// Have you any suggestions to offer?

July 2, 1946

Mr. C. L. Andrews
1734 Villard Street
Eugene, Oregon

My dear Mr. Andrews:

We are always glad to receive your letters and copies of the Eskimo which you send us. We get more information from you about the developments in the Eskimo question in Alaska than from anyone else.

Our lack of response has not meant that we are not interested. We have been trying to expand our mission work in the Territory and that has brought us so much additional responsibility that we have not been able to do everything which we would like to do.

I get to Washington rather infrequently but the next time I am down there I shall try to talk to Delegate Bartlett about the question and see what we can do toward getting the control of the herds back into the hands and ownership of the Eskimos themselves. We appreciate how much fine work you are doing on this question, and keep up the agitation for the return of the herds to the Natives.

Cordially yours,

J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska

Dictated by Dr. Jackman
but signed in his absence

File
Reindeer in
Alaska

007 24/1947

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
FIELD SERVICE

Alaska Native Service
Juneau, Alaska
October 17, 1947

AIR MAIL

Mr. J. Earl Jackman, Secretary
Unit of Work in Alaska
Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A.
156 Fifth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Jackman:

Your letter of August 20, 1947 has been referred to this department for reply to the portion concerning reindeer.

Several factors contributed to the reduction of reindeer in Alaska and with all factors considered a reduction in numbers was inevitable regardless of who was in charge of the program. Wolves have killed many deer and have caused the dispersal and scattering of numberless others which were undoubtedly eventually lost. They have raised havoc with herds which were loosely and poorly herded. They are a problem with which we still have to contend and there seems to be no easy economically known method to exterminate them. The ownership of reindeer by numerous natives, many of whom did not care to participate in managing them and took no interest except to butcher for meat, resulted in the forming of associations to handle the deer, but this lack of interest on the part of the various owners led to the eventual abandonment and loss of the reindeer by the associations. Up to July 1, 1944 the associations were subsidized by the Government by payment or assistance with payment of herders. The termination of this subsidy resulted in the termination of herding of some association reindeer. The large number of reindeer which were in the area at the peak numbers undoubtedly resulted in over-grazing and without a doubt, if other factors had not contributed to a reduction, starvation alone would have done so. War work with the high wages made it extremely difficult to obtain and hold good herders as, generally the best herders were also the best workers on other jobs. Wages for herding were considerably less than the wages for other work.

We cannot overlook the fact that at the maximum of the reindeer population (500,000 to 600,000) the value per head in dollars was small, although they contributed immensely to the population in the way of food and clothing, yet money was required to operate herds and to construct and maintain certain essential equipment.

Our present program is to get the reindeer under the management of capable and experienced natives. Part of the reindeer owned by the Government have been loaned to individuals on contracts which provide for the repayment of the same number of reindeer at the end of about five years, as was received. The borrower will have a herd of his own acquired from the offspring of those borrowed to continue after repayment to the Government, and we plan on loaning the remaining deer of the Government as rapidly as conditions make it advisable. Those repaid will be reloaned to another individual. We have and are still

encouraging those associations who have deer left but are not taking care of them to loan them to an individual to prevent the probable loss of the entire herd. In this manner we hope to gradually rebuild the reindeer industry in Alaska on a sound foundation which will be of permanent benefit to the people.

Our program is not spectacular and progress will not be as rapid as formerly. Our grazing lands are not fresh with abundant mosses and lichens as they were at the start. We have wolves which are a serious menace to our herds. Our younger people are growing up with different backgrounds than their fathers and do not take readily to the isolated physically hard work of herding reindeer. We do not hope to have the great numbers of reindeer as once existed. The main reason is economic. Unless the individuals who devote their time to reindeer work can have adequate revenue from their herds to pay their help and live reasonably well they will not remain with the reindeer but will seek employment elsewhere. Great numbers of reindeer would again force down the prices for meat and other products so that the operators could not continue. We hope to handle this by placing only enough herds near settlements to supply the local needs unless transportation is available to move meat to other areas in Alaska where there is a demand. We have concluded that transportation difficulties and costs and lack of adequate demand to pay prices which will take care of increased cost precludes serious consideration of marketing reindeer meat in the States.

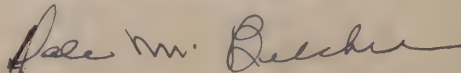
We are vitally interested in our reindeer program and are mindful of the importance of reindeer to the people in the Arctic. However, with our limited funds all individual herds must pay all of their own operating expenses. In addition, we will need to be as careful as possible in making loans of reindeer to see that the individual who receives them is sincerely interested in making a success of the undertaking to prevent the loss of the reindeer. We do not entertain the slightest idea that all Eskimos want to own reindeer or that all of them will herd reindeer.

There are around 65,000 head of reindeer at this time and there are probably many more running in small bunches here and there which are remnants from some of the old herds. To date this year the reports on individual herds which have been corralled and tallied show a satisfactory increase.

We appreciate your interest in the reindeer and are glad to have this opportunity to explain our present program to you.

Sincerely yours,

Don C. Foster
General Superintendent



Dale M. Belcher
Asst. Director Native Resources

DMB/crp

File: 906.

cc: William E. Warne, Asst. Secretary
of the Interior.
Extension Division, Mr. Cooley

ALASKA

PERM. FILE

THE STORY OF ALASKA'S REINDEER

By D. E. Thomas, Chief Of Alaska Section



Reindeer At (Lower Yukon) Marshall, Alaska

There are on this continent over half a million animals not native to North America, whose ancestors were imported through Congressional appropriation. They are the Alaska reindeer.

When the United States purchased Alaska from Russia in 1867 there were no reindeer on the North American Continent. At that time the few white men in Alaska were mostly Russian employees of the Imperial Russian Government and the fur-trading companies.

Credit for this industry as it exists today is due principally to the vision of two men - the Reverend Sheldon Jackson, who was General Agent for the U. S. Bureau of Education in Alaska from 1885 to 1907, and to Captain Michael Healy, commanding officer of the United States Revenue Cutter "Bear."

During the late 'seventies and early 'eighties, Dr. Jackson had been in charge of the mission work of the Presbyterian Church in the Rocky Mountain and Pacific Northwest areas, and subsequently in Alaska. In the course of his supervisory work, Dr. Jackson came to know Alaska well. When the Federal Government decided to establish schools under the Department of the Interior in what was then the District of Alaska, it was logical that Dr. Jackson should be chosen as the first general agent for the U. S. Bureau of Education, to which the administration of these schools was assigned.

On one of his first trips to Alaska, Dr. Jackson had found the Eskimos thriving on the native food supply of seal, walrus, whale, fish and game. A year or two later, visiting this same area, he had found whole villages almost wiped out by starvation, and the ground strewn with the bones of men, women and children. He talked with the few emaciated survivors who told of the famine caused by the depletion of their native food supplies. Always somewhat

subject to fluctuation in numbers, the wild caribou were disappearing from the coastal areas and the whaling fleet had made severe inroads on the whales and walrus which constituted a major portion of the natives' food supply. Not only was the food supply disappearing, but the raw materials for clothing as well.

Their pioneer missionary leader, deeply affected by the misery of these formerly vigorous people, discussed the problem in detail with Captain Michael Healy of the "Bear", on his return voyage. Captain Healy had, in the course of his travels, often visited the Chuckchees, Eskimos living on the Siberia side of Bering Strait, and had observed the large reindeer herds owned by these people which offered insurance against famine during the periodical depletion of wild game and sea food. Captain Healy suggested the importation of some of these reindeer to Alaska. Dr. Jackson was fired with enthusiasm over the idea and presented it to William T. Harris, Commissioner of Education, on his return to Washington. The Department backed the project and a number of Senators and Congressmen became interested, including Senator Henry M. Teller, of Colorado, who became an especially enthusiastic supporter. The first year, however, the appropriation failed to pass. Dr. Jackson obtained approval to appeal to the public. Churches, newspapers and welfare groups became interested and some \$2,000 was raised and placed at Dr. Jackson's disposal, with which the first shipments totaling some 186 reindeer were purchased in Siberia, carried on the "Bear" and landed on what is now Teller, Alaska, in 1891 and 1892. The following year Congress made an appropriation for further purchases and between 1892 and 1902, 1,280 reindeer were imported into Alaska.



Teller, Alaska

In 1902 the Russian Government issued a Ukase forbidding any further exportation of reindeer from Siberia. Thus it is from these two importations that the present herds have descended.

The problem remained as to the training of Eskimos to handle the reindeer herds. The inhabitants of Lapland had owned large reindeer herds for centuries and were well versed in their

care and in the use of reindeer products. Dr. Jackson was authorized to visit Lapland and to make contracts with a number of Lapps experienced in the reindeer business to move with their families to Alaska, to live there for a specified period and to give instruction to Eskimo herders selected by the Bureau of Education. The Lapps were engaged, crossed the Atlantic, the United States by railroad to San Francisco, and then sailed to Alaska. (Seattle did not become an important city and port of departure for Alaska until after 1898.) Nearly all of these Lapps and their descendants remained in Alaska permanently and many of them today are well-to-do residents of the Territory.

A second problem confronting the officials who were inaugurating the Reindeer Service in Alaska was the distribution of the reindeer so that they would reach the greatest possible number of Eskimos. The first contracts made by the Bureau of Education were with the various missionary denominations with headquarters in northwestern Alaska. These contracts provided that approximately one hundred reindeer be transferred from the Government to the specified mission on condition that the mission, over a period of years, train a given number of young Eskimos in the care and management of the deer. At the end of the specified period the missions were to return to the Government the same number of reindeer loaned them. In the meantime, a portion of the increase was to be transferred to the reindeer apprentices; the remainder were to be retained by the missions as foundation herds.

As finally worked out, this apprenticeship system called for a four-year training of promising young Eskimos. During their period of apprenticeship, they received food and clothing to the value of about \$300 a year; in addition they received reindeer annually, the number varying from six their first year to ten during their third and fourth years. At the end of the four years, each apprentice owned a herd of approximately fifty reindeer and became a qualified reindeer herder. Contracts were then entered into with these herders to train apprentices under the same system. Through this endless chain the reindeer were distributed throughout northern and western Alaska. This system was drawn up in large part by William T. Lopp, formerly a Congregational missionary and later a holder of various government posts in Alaska, including those of Superintendent of Education of Natives and General Reindeer Superintendent.

On November 1, 1929, the Alaska Reindeer Service was transferred from the Bureau of Education to the supervision of the Governor of Alaska, under whose jurisdiction it remained until July 1, 1937, when it was again transferred to the Office of Indian Affairs, which had in the meantime taken over health and education work among Alaska Natives.

Whether or not the industry can ever be made a profitable commercial venture, the Natives of Alaska owe to the importation of reindeer a large share of what economic security they have. Not only is reindeer meat important in their diet; most of their clothing as well comes from reindeer. Mukluk uppers (boots), parkas, mittens, trousers and inside parkas - usually made of fawn skins - all depend on reindeer skins for their material.

Reindeer require little care. They secure their own food both winter and summer, living on reindeer moss in winter and grasses and other vegetation in summer. They need no shelter. They do require some herding throughout the year in order to prevent straying, and they also need some protection from predatory animals, especially from the wolves which in the past few years have increased in number in the reindeer country.

In the late fall, the deer are rounded up, driven into corrals - when they are available - and butchered. The meat is put into the natural cold storage which underlies most of Alaska - the glacial ice found anywhere between one and three feet below the ground's surface. Most reindeer herds are run by

native cooperatives which were first sponsored by the U. S. Office of Education and which have been further encouraged by the Indian Service. Ownership is indicated by various ear cuts and these are registered with the Territorial Government.

Lona E. Morlander, Indian Service teacher at Yakutat, describes a reindeer roundup near Kivalina in preparation for the annual shipment of carcasses on the "North Star."

"Kobruvuk walked slowly, deliberately, into the midst of the now slowly-milling animals. He raised his rifle. The ping of the bullet sang out ... The deer kept milling gently, showing very little excitement as shot after shot felled companions standing shoulder to shoulder with them.

"Suddenly a cry rang out. 'Kohneet!' (Reindeer!) I saw four or five of the older natives rushing down to the shore of the lagoon. A section of the herd led by one antlered buck, braver than the rest, had made a dash for liberty via the lagoon.

"The old Eskimos took to their small skin boats. What a race! The light craft, four of them, shot out alongside the deer which were swimming desperately for the mainland. But the herders soon had the swimming deer cut off from the mainland. With wild guttural shouts and waving of their single kayak paddles, the Eskimo herders in the water did some quick work and managed to drive about half the escaping deer back to the spit. The rest sped across the tundra in long spring strides and were soon lost to sight in the foothills.

"As I watched, the butchering continued, but the firing ceased because the ammunition became exhausted. Lassoing and stabbing were now in order. Females were spared. And so the butchering continued into the Arctic night, whose twilight lasted long enough to enable the workers to finish their two-day task of preparing five hundred deer for shipment."*

The exportation of reindeer on a large scale would not seem, on the basis of present conditions, to be likely to be commercially profitable. The Lomen Reindeer Corporation and its subsidiaries attempted, during the past fifteen or twenty years, to build up a profitable export business in connection with its holdings of Alaska reindeer. Large sums were invested in the project. Reindeer were slaughtered in considerable numbers; abattoirs were established in Alaska; and the meat exported to the United States for sale. The high cost of operation in Alaska and the high cost of transportation to Seattle, however, worked against the success of the project. The largest number exported in any one year was probably some eight or ten thousand.

* Excerpted with permission from "The Alaska Sportsman."

The Alaska Eskimos have sent a number of shipments to Seattle on the Indian Service vessels, "North Star" and "Boxer." During the past few years, the only reindeer exported by the Eskimos have been approximately 1,000 carcasses shipped on the "North Star" once a year on the vessel's return trip from its Arctic cruise. This meat has been disposed of almost entirely in Alaska, at various stops en route back to Seattle.

The Alaska reindeer is a comparatively small animal which weighs from 100 to 125 pounds dressed. The meat is prime during only a comparatively short portion of the year. The animals are semi-wild and frequently the herds are located at considerable distances from the Eskimo villages. The cost of rounding up the deer, slaughtering them, dressing the carcasses, and of cold storage and transportation to Seattle, is so great that it is not practical to sell the meat in the States in competition with beef, pork and lamb.

In September 1937, Congress passed legislation (50 Stat. 900), which authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to purchase, for the benefit of the Eskimos and other Natives of Alaska, all of the reindeer owned by white individuals, by Lepos and by missions, together with abattoirs and other property used in connection with the reindeer industry, to the end that the reindeer industry in Alaska will belong exclusively to the Eskimos and other natives. It is estimated that Natives already own two-thirds of the reindeer. The sum of \$2,000,000 was authorized to be appropriated for this purpose, but so far no appropriation has been made.

Under the 1939 Interior Department Appropriation Act, the chairmen of the Senate and House Appropriation Committees were empowered to appoint a committee of three to visit Alaska to investigate the reindeer industry and to make recommendations as to the advisability of the government's carrying through the purchase of all non-Native-owned reindeer. The committee which included Mr. C. E. Bachford, Dr. D. T. Wilson and Mr. Frank H. Reeds, during its three-months' visit last summer attended a number of reindeer round-ups, inspected slaughterhouses and took testimony from various interested persons. It will make its recommendations to the Congress some time this month, and its findings are eagerly awaited.



The Arrival Of A Plane At Point Barrow, Alaska,
The Northermost Point On The Continent